

WHY WOMEN SHOULD NEVER WEAR SKIRTS.

By Viscountess Harberton.

Long Dresses Necessitate Over-Dressing and Women Suffer Under Load of Finery.

Mistaken Notion of Decency That is a Bar to Healthful Costumes.

"Two-Legged" Dress Gives Freedom of Action and Insures Freedom from Illness.

The Viscountess Harberton, the dauntless pioneer in England of rational dress for women, has written specially for *The Evening World* the following vindication of the movement with which she has been so prominently identified. Lady Harberton herself always wears a divided skirt, and last year created a sensation by going in rational costume to a hotel much frequented by cyclists in Surrey, where she was informed the landlady made it a practice to refuse to serve with refreshment lady cyclists in rational dress. Lady Harberton was treated in the same manner, and a test case was brought before the magistrates, but on a technicality judgment went for the landlady, although the opinion of the Bench was so strongly in Lady Harberton's favor that the prosecution of skirtless cyclists has since been discontinued.

LONDON, March 25.—In spite of all the devotion of women to dress, it is a sad fact that this very thing has become their worst enemy. Not because the love of adornment is wrong, nor because the wish to be admired is other than natural, but because women cannot be got to discern the great difference between deformity and adornment, nor to perceive that truth and reality must be the right and only foundation of all true art.

Consequently their dress has become a more tangled mass of materials. Extremely artificial, and being in its first conception not only hideous but also opposed to every natural line, it requires ceaseless thought and overloading with all sorts of extraneous decoration to make it bearable.

It seems absurd to have to remind people what the actual form is which they are seeking to clothe, but it is almost necessary for the sake of argument. Beginning at the shoulders, it may be described roughly as an upper part of a nearly straight, oblong shape, supported upon two comparatively slender legs, the narrowest part being at the feet and ankles.

Dresses Lack Symmetry. Can this resemble anything less than an upper part with a sudden constriction in the middle narrowing it to almost a second neck, and supported, not on two legs at all, but on a long single barrel with the widest part on the ground? For that is the outline of the form which invariably rises before the mind's eye at the thought of the appearance of any woman.

It is perfectly certain that this compression in the centre of the body, being entirely unnatural and only achieved by outside pressure begun in youth, does incalculable harm, as nature has planned the inside organs to fit into the space arranged without any tapering at the waist line. The exaggerated corset-made waist is therefore produced by a compression sufficient to displace their organs to a certain extent.

If they remained firm and in their places no alteration of shape could be attained, so it is useless for people to



VISCOUNTESS HARBERTON.
in Bloomer Costume.

attempt to deny the displacement. Being then more or less out of their right positions, they are unable to fulfil their functions properly and become more or less congested, giving rise gradually to a long string of ailments which constantly tend to become chronic.

"Two-Legged" Dress Needed. There is, however, no possibility of getting rid of this waist compression unless some form of dress visibly two-

legged is to replace the skirt. Without it the barrel shape would continue in an unbroken line (like a Noah's ark figure) from the shoulder to the ground, and though this would be a bit more unnatural than the waist-compressed shape, it would be more monotonous and dignified looking. So the two things, skirts and waist constriction, being interdependent, will forever stand or fall together.

It is not too much to put this even more strongly, for if we picture to ourselves such figures as we daily and hourly see among us with a nine-inch or twenty-inch waist and think of them unclad, and with two legs, we cannot think of them without a shudder as unnatural monstrosities.

Why women cling to this very strange mode of dress is one of the most puzzling things in the history of the race. No dress can well be more inconvenient for all active occupations than a skirt. It doubles the toll of all who have to work, making carrying anything about (including a child) and especially up flights of stairs, an actually injurious undertaking, owing to the necessity of holding the body at an unnatural angle, and consequently throwing the strain on the wrong muscles. The muddy weather, too, holding the skirt up is most unpleasant and wearisome, and indeed, impossible if the wearer has anything in her hands. And at all times the skirt is singularly ill-adapted to locomotion, owing to its resisting weight against the legs and its liability to twist round them in a wind. For games such as tennis, hockey, etc., it is so unsuitable as to be positively revolting.

Skirts Are Indecent, Too.

It is curious to note that although of all forms of dress a skirt is probably the most indecent, many women will say they prefer it on account of its decency. Yet a moment's consideration shows that a dress which pretends to conceal the legs and at the same time is so constructed as to uncover them constantly on the least emergency, is both indecent and suggestive.

Women have a perfect right to adopt such a dress as they like, but it is a modest, clean—even in the mud—and looks its best on the natural human figure; and as for resembling a man (an objection often brought forward by those who do not clearly know what is meant by rational dress) it is to be hoped the person who has ever seen a man dressed as here depicted will come forward at once and say when and where it was!

Whether the public is fully aware of the fact that the present style of women's dress is inimical to perfect health, it is the energies and lowers the tone, for a deformed animal is rarely in the perfect health of a well-made one.

HOW TO GET ON THE STAGE AND BECOME A SUCCESSFUL PLAYER.

BY ELLEN TERRY.

Written Exclusively for *The Evening World*.

The *Evening World* is always in receipt of letters from young men and young women who wish to adopt the stage as a profession, and who ask how and where to begin, and what are the qualifications for success in such a career. A sufficient number of these letters to cover the entire field of inquiry were submitted to the greatest and most successful of English-speaking actresses, Miss Ellen Terry, who read them carefully and has answered every question of importance they propounded.

These answers have all been written—not dictated, but written by the actress herself, and every word and thought has been conscientiously weighed and considered.

SECOND SUGGESTIONS.

What is the first step stage aspirants should take to get on the stage?

THERE is no royal entrance to the stage.

Stage aspirants should walk in at the stage door, which is the only proper entrance for the artist. Once inside there is an initiation ceremony, and unless you are equal to the test you will leave through the same door.

How is the stage aspirant to secure promotion?

THERE is no promotion possible to any but the earnest and conscientious worker.

Acting is an art as well as a gift, and the destiny of talent must eventually reap its reward.

Promotion is not wholly a matter of ambition; many things are done for love of an art without seeking material reward.

Can a young man or woman who is not handsome in looks be successful on the stage?

PERSONAL appearance for the beginner is a great help, of course. Theatrical managers are not usual psychic in their observations, therefore, if you are a pretty woman, or smart-looking young man, managers may be more easily attracted. But please be quite sure that acting is not a profession of externals; nothing superficial on the stage will have any permanent success.

Good looks are useful anywhere, but I would almost say they are the least necessary qualities for real dramatic talent.

Which is better, to study character parts from life or from tradition?

ALL parts are character parts. Hamlet is as much a character part as the clown.

It is usually safe to take into consideration the work of great actors or actresses in any part you may be studying.

The traditions of famous roles should always be at least considered. Personally I have always considered and adopted some traditions. I have also considered and rejected others.

For instance, in the church scene in "Much Ado About Nothing" tradition has it that when Benedick goes to help the fainting Hero Beatrice slaps his hands, as if in jealousy.

I promptly rejected that tradition. All good actors make traditions.

All parts take their birth from life, and one of the most important duties of the artistic mind is to memorize all impressions within reach of our



MISS ELLEN TERRY.

observations. So use tradition and adapt your life-studies to everything.

What is the most difficult line of work on the stage, modern drama or costume plays?

ALL plays, modern or romantic, are delightfully difficult to the artist. I am very much in favor of fine modern plays. Nothing would please me more than to play in them, although I never look well in modern dress.

The impression that modern plays should be problem plays is often confusing to audiences and actors. As a matter of fact, the problem play is old as the hills—"Hamlet" is a problem play, and many other classical dramas.

The romantic or costume drama is the favorite subject of the poets, and consequently appears to appeal more intimately to the imagination than modern drama as we understand it.

As I have said, the modern drama is more difficult for me to impersonate than the romantic drama, for I never had a modern figure.

There is as much romance to-day as in some past days. Hearts are as big and warm among the people; brains are as witty. Folks suffer, and enjoy, it seems to me, as keenly in "the golden now" as in the medieval past.

Do good breeding and good family give prominence on the stage?

THE two actors I admire most, and who have the greatest distinction of manner, have no ancestors of mark, but their descendants will be heard of.

It is not to be supposed that any genius is inherited entirely. There is no historical record showing a long line of genius in one family.

Good breeding, of course, gives refinement, and it is to be presumed that

good families have special virtues; but these are not safe rules by any means. The stage, like many arts, makes no distinction.

All the stage asks of you is to act convincingly, and it doesn't care where you come from or who you are.

Are the chances for a novice better in America than in England?

SHOULD say, as this is such a big country and there are so many more theatres here than in England, that the chances for a beginner are better in this country.

However, beginners on the stage usually find an opening in the land where they were born.

It really doesn't matter so much where you begin as how you finish!

Will extensive advertising and a large sum of money insure success on the stage?

IF there is one thing in this mercenary world that cannot be bought it is brains.

All the money in the land will not make a great actor or a great actress. Cover the sky with posters, if you can; it will help your success, give you notoriety—nothing more.

If you are going to be an artist you will be one in spite of all the money and advertising used for you or against you.

Stars are as fixed in the dramatic firmament as they are in the heavens, and you know no capital is equal to organizing a transportation service to Mars.

To-morrow Miss Terry tells the young man who can recite Shakespeare or is otherwise able to amuse and entertain his friends what to do with his talents.

SHE ROUTED THE PICKETS.

Young Girl, Attacked by Four Women Strikers, Used Broom Handle.

Little Mary Kronan, employed by the cigar manufacturing firm of Krebs, Westheim & Schiffer, of Fifty-fourth street and Second avenue, whose employees are on strike, was attacked on a ferry-boat this morning by four of the strikers' girl pickets, but Mary proved more than a match for her assailants, whom she routed after a lively fight.

Mary, who is only fifteen years old, lives at 75 North Fifth street, Williamsburg.

She started for work early this morning by way of the Grand street ferry. Before the boat left the slip the four women surrounded the non-union worker and endeavored to induce her to return home.

Mary told them to mind their own business. Then they called her names and shook their fists in her face.

The little girl suddenly drew from under her cloak a long stick, resembling the handle of a broom. This she swung deftly in the air and knocked off the hats of the strikers.

In a few seconds Mary found herself master of the situation with four somewhat damaged heads gathered around. These she carefully gathered up, and leaving the boat started for home.

Half an hour later the four strikers came tearfully to the young girl and pleaded for her hats.

The hats were surrendered and Miss Kronan resumed her New York trip in peace.

NO EXTRA CHARGE FOR IT.

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Rogers Silver-Plated Ware. They do not need a word to strengthen their popularity. Admittedly superior. The average retail buyer is fully informed. Every article in our stock bearing the Rogers impress is the best of its kind. Mark that and note the prices:

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| Sugar Spoons, each, 19c. | Fish Knives, each, 79c. |
| Berry Spoons, each, 39c. | Triple-plated Knives, set, \$1.17. |
| Dessert Forks, per set, 84c. | Fish Knives & Forks, set, \$1.49. |
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| Fern Dishes, with artificial ferns, \$2.49. | Bread Trays, \$1.13. |
| Butter Dishes, 6 patterns, \$1.98. | Trays, \$1.94. |
| Water Pitchers, \$2.41. | Crumb Trays and Scrapers, \$2.44. |
| Ice Pitchers, \$2.41. | Pickle Castors, \$1.88. |
| Cake Baskets, \$1.89. | Table Castors, \$2.14. |
| Cracker Jars, \$2.14. | Chocolate Pots, \$1.98. |
| Tea Sets, four pieces, \$5.87. | Chocolate Pots, wood handle, \$2.99. |

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| Shoe Buttoners, 67c. | Puff Boxes, \$1.49. |
| Combs, 48c. | Soap Boxes, \$2.14. |
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| Napkin Rings, each, 84c. | Bon Bon Spoons, 89c. |
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| Gravy Ladles, \$2.97. | Cold Meat Forks, \$1.67. |
| Lemonade Spoons, 89c. | Salt and Pepper Shakers, \$1.49. |

We engrave three letters without charge on all Sterling and Quadruple-Plated Ware.

Easter Novelties Among the China.

The first news of vital interest centres in the display of indestructible Bisque Ware on the main floor bargain tables. It represents the choicest and most recent productions of our Rudolstadt factory. There are scores of graceful, odd, quaint and pretty shapes in ornaments and vases. The delicate tints and charming decorations are emblematic of Easter. Easy to select gifts from such a marvel spread—19c. to \$4.97. Many of the articles have no duplicates. This means exclusiveness without costliness.



THE SPHINX INTO THERE. IN THE DESERT BARE. WITH MARY A WORD TO SAY. BUT, IF YOU'D SUCCEED, YOU'D BETTER TAKE NEED THAT AID. IN THE SUNDAY WORLD FORT.

The Sphinx can afford to be silent. It has no throat. You cannot. You have wants. Talk through the World and fill them.

CAME EAST FOR ANOTHER WIFE.

Kansas City Man Was Traced and Locked Up for Bigamy.

Two wives, two marriage certificates and a year-old baby confronted Edward C. Potter, a steam pilot, before Judge Potts, of Jersey City this morning. His suburban-haired wife is now trying to secure his release on \$1,000 bail. His black-haired wife has taken her baby and gone home to her mother.

Idylla Potter's marriage certificate showed that she married the prisoner March 14, 1892, in Kansas City. They had three children. He disappeared a year ago.

Mrs. Potter No. 2 showed her certificate giving date of marriage April 19, 1893, by Rev. Frederick Walcott Jackson, of Jersey City. Potter told wife No. 2 of his first marriage.

"He said he wouldn't live with him, so I did," was her explanation to Judge Potts.

The original Mrs. Potter found her husband with wife No. 1 at 38 Third street, Jersey City, and procured a bigamy warrant.

WOMAN BURNED IN HER HOME.

Husband Tried to Save Her, but She Will Die.

John Cummings, of 28 West Lincoln avenue, Mount Vernon, was aroused from sleep at an early hour this morning by screams, and rushing out into the kitchen, found his wife lying on a floor burning to death. The flames were extinguished by her husband.

The burned woman was removed to the Mount Vernon Hospital, and the attending physician says she will die. Mrs. Cummings, who is twenty-eight years old, is the mother of three children. She has not been able to tell how the accident occurred, but it is believed she was carrying a lighted lamp across the floor when it exploded.

THY M.T. AS STRANGERS.

Three Sisters in Same Sunday-School Class Did Not Know They Were Related.

Mary and Kate Chesney, seventeen and thirteen years old, who were sent to the Snake Hill Almshouse on their mother's death some years ago and who had been recently living within a few blocks of each other, acquainted till friends brought them together, have been made still happier by finding their eleven-year-old sister, Sarah.

DEATH RATE IN MANILA.

It Is Now Up to Forty Per Cent., According to Last Census.

MANILA, March 6.—The census of Manila just completed by the Health Department gives the city an unpleasantly high rank among the unhealthy cities of the world. It establishes a death rate of something over 40 per cent. at a conservative estimate.

Former estimates and censuses had always given Manila 25,000 population. The census was a careful count of natives and Chinese living in buildings and boats in the police districts of Manila, and it gave a total of 190,714, of whom 30,000 were Chinese.

There are to be added the inhabitants of several villages within the city limits, Americans and Europeans, and 1,000 priests in the monasteries. From reliable information the officials estimate their number at between 10,000 and 60,000. The deaths in Manila officially reported during the six months from July 1 to Dec. 31 last years were 6,382. Of these 2,941 were children. Some of the causes were beriberi, 330; tuberculosis, 245; bronchitis, 214; dysentery, 225; fever, 207; while stomach troubles ranked high. Manila now has three diseases epidemic which would throw the average community into a panic—bubonic plague, beriberi and smallpox.

HOME FOR LITTLE WAIF.

Mr. Ford, of Mount Vernon, Will Get Baby Julia Blake.

Julia Blake, the baby abandoned in Smith & McNeill's Hotel on Thursday by its parents, who wished to save their reputations, will have a comfortable home by to-morrow.

Supt. Blair, of the Outdoor Poor Department, will give the child into the keeping of William Warwick Ford, of 25 Union avenue, Mount Vernon.

The Ford family occupy a handsome home in Mount Vernon. Mr. Ford is a well-to-do real estate dealer. He has a wife and a nine-year-old boy. A girl died four years ago, and he is anxious now to get possession of Julia Blake, which name Supt. Blair gave the child.

Mr. Ford has a number of influential friends from whom he has been procuring letters to Supt. Blair to show that the baby will receive the best of care. He says Mayor Van Wyck is a personal friend, and he went to the Mayor's office this morning to see him, but he reached there too early and he could not wait.

HE FOUND SOUTH POLE.

Borchgrevink Got Further South Than Ever Before Reached.

LONDON, April 2.—Charles E. Borchgrevink, the leader of the South Polar expedition, fitted out in 1898 by Sir George Newnes, of this city, who, with the surviving members of his party, arrived on the steamer Southern Cross at Campbelltown, near Bluff Harbor, N. Z., yesterday, telegraphed to Sir George Newnes that the object of the expedition has been fully attained.

The position of the South Magnetic Pole has been located and the expedition reached the furthest point South, and sledge, of which there is any record, namely latitude 78 degrees 29 minutes South.

Previous to the late explorations Herr Borchgrevink believed the South Magnetic Pole to be situated in latitude 75 degrees 5 minutes South and longitude 150 degrees East.

DR. HILLIS RESIGNS.

Quits the Presbyterian Church in a Formal Letter to Chicago Presbytery.

CHICAGO, April 2.—Dr. W. C. Gray to-day presented to the Chicago Presbytery a letter from Dr. Newell Dwight Hillis, resigning from the Presbyterian Church.

HEART DISEASE.

Some Facts Regarding the Rapid Increase of Heart Trouble.

Heart trouble, at least among the Americans, is certainly increasing, and while this may be largely due to the excitement and worry of American business life, it is more often the result of weak stomachs, of poor digestion.

Real organic disease is incurable; but not one case in a hundred of heart trouble is organic.

The close relation between heart trouble and poor digestion is because both organs are controlled by the same great nerves, the sympathetic and the pneumogastric.

In another way also the heart is affected by the form of poor digestion, which causes gas and fermentation from half digested food. There is a feeling of oppression and heaviness in the chest, caused by pressure of the distended stomach on the heart and lungs, interfering with their action; hence arise palpitation and short breath.

Poor digestion also poisons the blood, making it thin and watery, which irritates and weakens the heart.

The most sensible treatment for heart trouble is to improve the digestion and to leave the prompt administration of food.

This can be done by the regular use after meals of some safe, pleasant and effective digestive preparation, like Stuart's Digestive Tablets, which may be found at drug stores, and which contain valuable, harmonious digestive elements in a pleasant, convenient form.

It is safe to say that the regular, persistent use of Stuart's Digestive Tablets at meal time will cure any form of stomach trouble except cancer of the stomach.